



# An Emotionally Charged Festival Sets the Stage for the Future

**Barry Shiffman**  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

What a year! I am just elated after coming off my first Rockport Chamber Music Festival. Our artists delivered passionate performances that were emotionally charged, vitally important, and deeply affecting. Reflecting back on the Festival, I find myself truly inspired by our committed and curious audience; by our glorious Shalin Liu Performance Center; by the beauty of Cape Ann; and by what Rockport Music is doing to build for the future. Word is out that Rockport Music is on the move.

Looking to the future, there are so many artists and projects I want to bring to Rockport and share with you. Myriad opportunities stand before us as we take that next step as an organization, and it is incumbent upon us to seize those opportunities and shape the direction of the Festival. We can now use the momentum of this past summer and bring the Festival to an international stage, with exciting new artists and groundbreaking programs. As the *Boston Globe* wrote in its review of

Opening Night, Rockport Music is "poised to hit the paradoxical sweet spot of remaining true to the festival's roots while carrying it somewhere entirely new."

This important campaign helps make our dream of Rockport Music continue, building on our legacy and creating the necessary foundation needed for the future. To everyone that has supported this important campaign, I say a heartfelt "Thank You."



## CAMPAIGN INITIATIVES

As a cultural leader in the greater Boston area, Rockport Music launched a \$12-million campaign in 2016 to ensure that we continue to bring great music to our hall, provide an exceptional audience experience, and serve the community at large. The *In Concert with You* Campaign has three primary initiatives:

The **ARTISTIC PROGRAM EXCELLENCE ENDOWMENT** will ensure our ability to continue to advance programmatic excellence in presenting exceptional live music in all genres, as well as to augment our education and outreach programs.

The **ARTISTIC AND EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP ENDOWMENT** will enable Rockport Music to attract and retain key leaders who are passionate, innovative, and essential to shaping our vision of musical excellence and preserving Rockport Music's high standards.

The **SHALIN LIU PERFORMANCE CENTER PRESERVATION FUND** and the **SHALIN LIU PERFORMANCE CENTER BUILDING ENDOWMENT FUND** will support the maintenance and care of our beautiful concert hall.

**PROGRAM EXCELLENCE**  
\$5,000,000

**ARTISTIC & EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP**  
\$3,000,000

**BUILDING PRESERVATION FUNDS**  
\$4,000,000

**TOTAL**  
\$12,000,000

## WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? Endowment vs. Annual Fund



Most of us have both a checking account and some savings. We use the checkbook for our regular household expenses and the piggybank to buy something truly special or to pay for the unexpected. The size of our savings may partly determine how well we sleep at night because they provide a financial cushion for the future.

Just like you, a stable nonprofit organization needs both its checkbook (the Annual Fund) and a piggybank (an endowment). The strength of Rockport Music – its ability to maintain its standards of excellence today and look strategically toward a bright future – depends on both a robust Annual Fund and a healthy endowment. The *In Concert with You* Campaign provides a unique opportunity to build a much-needed endowment for Rockport Music.

While an endowment is imperative to ensure our future sustainability, it will not replace the need for Annual Fund gifts. We hope you will consider supporting Rockport Music this year with both a special campaign gift towards the endowment now and a gift for the Annual Fund later this year.

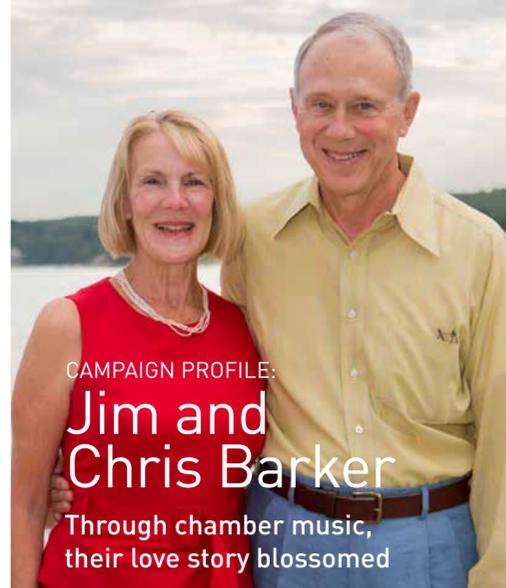
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**CAMPAIGN PROFILE:**  
**Jim and Chris Barker**  
Through chamber music, their love story blossomed

**THIS IS A LOVE STORY.** A love story made all the sweeter as it was fueled (in part) by chamber music. Before ever meeting his wife Chris, Jim Barker had moved to Gloucester from the Boston area. He'd always had an interest in chamber music, and upon moving to Cape Ann, soon discovered the Rockport Chamber Music Festival. At first, Jim started attending just one or two concerts a year, slowly gaining a keen appreciation for the Festival. A couple of years later, he brought Chris to the Festival on one of their early dates. Jim tells the story that before the concert they had dinner at My Place by the Sea, and the dinner went a little long. When they arrived at the concert, the only two remaining seats were on a narrow bench along the wall. However, when Chris adds to the story, she recalls holding hands on a "very romantic" walk down Bearskin Neck to the concert. So the Festival had a big part to play in their story.

A few years later in 2006, Jim and Chris (having gotten married) were wanting to get more involved in the local community and make more friends, so when they noticed an ad in the *Gloucester Times* about an event at the Community Center for anyone interested in getting involved in the Rockport Chamber Music Festival, they thought they should at least check it out. While at the event, Chris spoke with Susan Gray about editing the Festival newsletter, while Jim met with Janice Cane about joining the Finance Committee. Considering their backgrounds (Jim in finance and Chris in journalism), this was a perfect fit. When Jim saw the beautiful artist renderings of the proposed new building, he knew he wanted to help make this happen. Around 2007, Jim was asked to join the board and their involvement became even more significant.

During these years of planning for a new building, the amount of work needed from everyone involved – board, volunteers, everyone –

was a true commitment. "Without Tom Burger, I don't believe the building would have become a reality," said Jim. "I remember returning early from a vacation for a two-day board meeting. We needed to decide whether or not to sign the contracts to start building, even though we didn't have all the money raised yet. I remember someone saying at the meeting: 'This is either going to be a huge success, or the end of the organization.'" Thankfully, it was the former.

The Board obviously decided to sign the contracts, and in 2009 when the shell was up, their fears were assuaged. After the building had been finished, Jim and Chris recall the emotions of seeing those plans and drawings become real. "I remember the moment we walked into the completed building for the first time and David Deveau was seated at the piano...there were a lot of tears that day."

When the Barkers first heard of the *In Concert with You* campaign, they were intrigued. Said Jim, "We thought to ourselves, 'It's such a wonderful building, but it doesn't exist by itself. It needs funds to be able to maintain it.'" When Jim saw the estimated lifespan of the equipment and replacement schedule, he decided they must help "put a support structure together so the building didn't fall apart... and keep it at the standard intended which is in the best condition."

In the early stages of the current *In Concert with You* campaign, Jim and Chris, through their family foundation, established a challenge gift jointly with Mollie and John Byrnes. When asked why they created a challenge gift, Jim explained that "We wanted to create incentive to bring in more resources... We also believed in the building fund and wanted to help kickstart the campaign. We were so fortunate that we could work together with Mollie and John Byrnes to make it happen."

*"We wanted to create incentive to bring in more resources... We also believed in the building fund and wanted to help kickstart the campaign."*

**JIM AND CHRIS BARKER**

Music has always been a part of both Jim and Chris's lives, whether it being Jim's exposure to classical music in his childhood home or the Sinatra and big band music always playing throughout Chris' home. Chris adds that, "It wasn't until college that I really discovered classical music. I just felt Chopin, Wagner, Sibelius were such great finds!" Through their lives, they have also become passionate about ballet, opera, as well as classical music. This shared passion, combined with a generous spirit to make certain a special chamber concert hall is maintained for generations to come, helped Rockport Music reach this point of success as both an organization, as well as in the campaign. Over their years of involvement in the organization, from Jim working on the Finance Committee or Chris serving as editor of the Rockport Music newsletter, both have given of themselves to make certain Rockport Music and the Shalin Liu Performance Center have made it to this point. Their passion for this organization has truly sparked a greater commitment to many.

This is a love story – the Festival is part of this story – and thanks to their work, will continue to be part of many love stories to come.

## Why We Give?

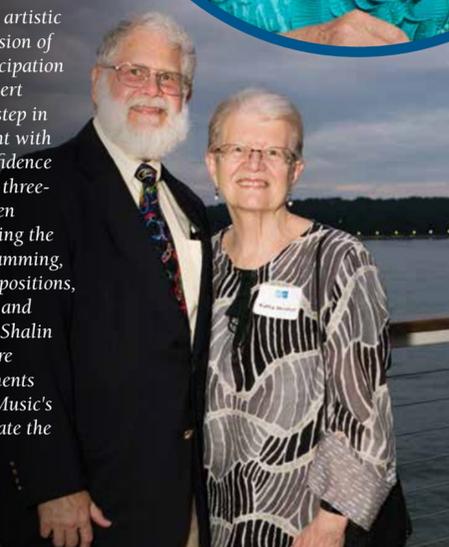
*I've never formally studied music but have long felt that fine musicians require an audience and a worthy setting in which to perform. For decades, my ears, mind and heart have relished my role as audience. Through the In Concert With You Campaign, I can now play a more active role in bringing extraordinary talent to Rockport, enriching the region and preserving the beautiful Shalin Liu Performance Center for years to come. My campaign gift is a special way to ensure support for Rockport Music's future as it continues to bring great music to children and adults.*

**MARYRUTH SOLE**



*Believing, as we do, in the artistic and learning-centered mission of Rockport Music, our participation in the campaign, "In Concert with You," was a natural step in our continuing involvement with the organization. The confidence we hold in the campaign's three-pronged focus provided even further impetus. Maintaining the very best in artistic programming, sustaining key leadership positions, and preserving the beauty and functional integrity of the Shalin Liu Performance Center are laudable and vital components of planning for Rockport Music's future. We eagerly anticipate the unfolding of that future!*

**KATHY & GENE SKRABUT**



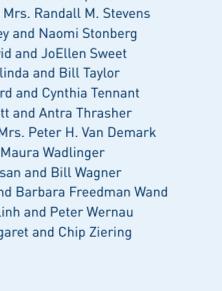
## A special thank you to our generous Campaign Donors

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- Margaret and Chip Ziering

## JUNE 2, 2018 The Summer Gala with the Preservation Hall Jazz Band

1. Campaign Co-chair Stephen Bell and Chip Ziering are enjoying the Gala! // 2. The Gala's cocktail reception brought a bit of New Orleans flavor to the evening. // 3. Gala Co-Chair and Trustee Nina Doggett sharing a laugh with Joe Grimaldi and friends at the Gala. // 4. Walter Herlihy and Nancy LeGendre enjoying the street parade by the Preservation Hall Jazz Band. // 5. Artistic Director Barry Shiffman (CENTER) celebrating at the reception with Alfred Chandler and Rev. Susan Escó-Chandler (LEFT) as well as Campaign Co-Chair and Trustee Pamela Morss (FAR RIGHT). // 6. Jill Bell in blue at the cocktail reception. // 7. Gala guests enjoy the gourmet dinner held in a beautiful setting at the Rockport Art Association (FIRST ROW, FROM LEFT): Virginia Spencer, Paula Dello Russo, Jerry and Margaretta Hausman, Thad Carpen; (SECOND ROW, FROM LEFT) Maura LaBarre, Shelly Chigier, Board Chair Susanne Guyer, Ben Chigier, Ron LaBarre. // 8. Trustee Peter Wernau and wife Thi Linh Wernau having a wonderful evening at the event. // 9. Board Trustee Phil Cutter (FAR RIGHT) and wife Eve enjoying the festivities with his brother Ed Cutter and wife Selma (LEFT). PHOTOS: ALEXANDRA JARIGE



# The 2018 Rockport Chamber Music Festival is a Spectacular Success

JUNE 15 – JULY 15, 2018



1. The Festival's Opening Night featured soprano Miriam Khalil and an all-star ensemble performing a truly powerful presentation of Osvaldo Golijov's *Ayre*. // 2. In the Festival's closing weekend, the Dover Quartet and Artistic Director Barry Shiffman perform a beautiful Mozart String Quintet. // 3. Marimbist Matt Sharrock performed as part of this year's new Classical Cabaret, held on the third floor. // 4. Violinist James Ehnes and pianist Andrew Armstrong brought a spectacular performance. // 5. The exciting Rolston Quartet brought a captivating program to the Festival. // 6. Van Cliburn Gold Medalist Winner Yekwon Sunwoo performed a beautiful solo program prior to joining with the Brentano Quartet for the second half of the concert. // 7. At the reception following the dramatic Opening Night concert, the Festival's composer-in-residence Osvaldo Golijov, Artistic Director Barry Shiffman, soprano Miriam Khalil, and director Joel Ivany joined for a celebratory moment! // 8. Bass-baritone Davóne Tines brought an emotional program entitled *Were You There*, featuring spirituals, in a production produced by the American Modern Opera Company. // 9. Artistic Director Barry Shiffman led a captivating ensemble performance in a Classical Cabaret. // 10. Alon Nashman performs *Kafka and Son*, which *The Boston Globe* hailed as a "tour de force." // 11. The Rockport Fellowship Quartet performed for passers-by in a pop-up concert in front of the Mercury Gallery. // 12. The Montrose Trio brought true musical excellence to the Opening Weekend concerts.

PHOTOS: JON TADIELLO, MICHAEL LUTCH, STAFF



LEFT: The Rockport Fellows with Jack Heinzmann, who hosted the Fellows at his home for the entirety of their 2-week residency. The group bonded with both each other and their host!

RIGHT: After performing a Family Concert, the Rockport Fellows speak with a little girl who wanted to share how much she loved their performance.

## IMPACT IN ACTION: The Rockport Fellows

FOR THIS SUMMER'S ROCKPORT CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR BARRY SHIFFMAN INCORPORATED MANY NEW and exciting elements to give the month-long concert series a truly "festival" feel. These included a composer-in-residence, late night classical cabarets, pop-up concerts throughout Cape Ann, theater offerings, multimedia presentations, and last, but certainly not least, the new Rockport Fellows program. The program brings young, rising star competition winners to the Festival as a way for Rockport Music to invest in the next generation of emerging classical musicians.

The first class of these Fellows included violinist Danny Koo and pianist Tony Yike Yang, as well as an assembled string quartet we dubbed the Rockport Fellowship Quartet, which included violinists Boson Mo and Jennifer Murphy, violist Laila Zakzook and cellist Julie Hereish.

Performing in the Festival has been quite an experience for the Fellows, something unlike anything that they had participated in before. Maybe the most valuable outcome has been meeting and performing with other artists at the same point in their budding careers. "It's been really, really great," says violinist Boson Mo. "One of the best things about the Festival is simply that Barry [Shiffman] brought us together. It's been so wonderful to play and learn from these other Fellows, all fantastic musicians in their own right. This kind of thing just doesn't happen everywhere. It's special."

Of course, being around world-class artists who have already "made it" is quite valuable as well, as violinist Jennifer Murphy can attest. "It's so great to be surrounded by so many amazing artists...

to perform with a quartet like the Attacca was thrilling. We got to do a jazz set with Stephen Prutsman. Jazz isn't something I normally do, so that was quite an experience, and something I wouldn't have done if not for this Festival."

"Performing in the Hall is a total sensory experience. It's truly amazing as a musician to be able to perform there." JULIE HEREISH, CELLIST

Another aspect of the Fellowship program that left a sizable impression on the artists is the opportunity to perform in a world-class venue as opposed to many of the rather unremarkable spaces where the young musicians are used to performing. "The Fellowship gives us exposure and experience definitely, but also, just to have the opportunity to play in such a beautiful Hall is so amazing," says Mo. It seems the pin-drop acoustics and the seascape backdrop of our Shalin Liu Performance Center have made quite an impression on the young artists. Adds cellist Julie Hereish, "Performing in the Hall is a total sensory experience. It's truly amazing as a musician to be able to perform there."

The future is definitely bright for these Fellows. It's exciting to think about their trajectory and to muse about the effect this fellowship has had on their burgeoning careers. Says Mo, "It would really be something if we could come back in the future, not as Fellows, but as independent artists, to be the next generation of chamber musicians to play this fantastic festival."

## Rockport Jazz Workshop

ALEXA TARANTINO, DIRECTOR

Each year, the Rockport Jazz Workshop brings over 100 young musicians together to learn about jazz history and theory, how to collaborate with other musicians through jazz combos and big band ensembles, as well as the all-important skill of improvisation. No matter their performance level, these young people learn important elements of music while having a great deal of fun. Then, in addition to an official concert to show off all that they learned, the students take the music on the road with a flash mob in Rockport's Dock Square.



CAMPAIGN NEWSLETTER  
SUMMER 2018



THE CAMPAIGN  
TO ENSURE  
ROCKPORT MUSIC'S  
FUTURE

*"There is a palpable energy coursing through Rockport Music right now. The organization is on the precipice of even greater things, with a spectacular debut Festival under Barry Shiffman, exciting summer jazz and folk concerts, another tremendously successful jazz workshop, and of course, a new administrative building (bringing all the staff together under one roof). I can't wait to see where we go next!"*

TONY BEADLE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## The Campaign Grand Finale

### A \$500,000 Matching Gift is pledged

On Saturday, June 2, at Rockport Music's Summer Gala, Board of Trustees Chair Susanne Guyer announced that the *In Concert with You* campaign had raised over \$11 million towards its \$12 million goal. This shows the tremendous progress on the campaign since one year prior when the campaign was officially announced to the public. She also had a surprise to share, in Susanne's own words:

*This celebratory evening provides a taste of the Shalin Liu Performance Center's magic and the artistic excellence we attract. These events, and all we do, depend on the sustainability of the Shalin Liu Performance Center and the world-class quality of our programming. Last year at this time I announced the launch of the "In Concert with You" campaign designed to build an endowment for Rockport Music's programming, leadership, education and outreach programs, and a preservation fund and endowment fund for the Shalin Liu Performance Center.*

*Tonight, we are delighted to announce that the campaign gifts and pledges now total over \$11 million. Our goal is within reach! To help us with the final stretch of the Campaign, the "Grand Finale," an anonymous donor has generously offered a \$500,000 challenge. For every dollar given to the campaign starting now, that gift or pledge will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$500,000.*

*Many of you in the audience tonight have already given to this campaign and we thank you for your generosity. For those who have not yet participated, we invite you to make a gift to Rockport Music's "In Concert With You" capital campaign. The impact of your gift will be doubled through this Challenge grant, and you will play an important role in ensuring that we can always bring great music to our hall, provide an exceptional audience experience, and serve the community at large. We invite you to be part of something special and enduring. We all can help ensure lasting excellence if together we join "In Concert With You."*

In giving to the campaign at this stage, you help Rockport Music raise the funds needed to not only meet the \$12 million campaign goal, but to surpass it. We encourage you to consider joining in the effort to ensure that Rockport Music's future is secure by bringing this campaign to a close. All gifts, of all sizes, are needed and welcome to meet this goal.

For more information, please visit [inconcertwithyou.org](http://inconcertwithyou.org) or contact Interim Director of Development Kathy Urner-Jones at [kurnerjones@rockportmusic.org](mailto:kurnerjones@rockportmusic.org) or 978.546.7391 x132.

TOP: After the Gala concert, the Preservation Hall Jazz Band led the guests across the street to the reception in grand New Orleans style! A true celebration!

LEFT: Executive Director Tony Beadle (center) with Campaign Co-Chairs Stephen Bell (left) and Garth Greimann (right) at the Gala celebration.

RIGHT: Board of Trustees Chair Susanne Guyer announces the exciting news of a \$500,000 matching gift prior to the Gala concert.

PHOTOS: ALEXANDRA JARIGE

*"To help us with the final stretch of the Campaign, an anonymous donor has generously offered a \$500,000 challenge."*



For more information about the *In Concert with You* Campaign, contact Interim Director of Development Kathy Urner-Jones at 978.546.7391 x132.

[InConcertWithYou.org](http://InConcertWithYou.org)

Rockport Music  
37 Main Street, Rockport, Massachusetts 01966